

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)

FROM : SA MICHAEL M. WILLIAMSON

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/20/68

Re memorandum to the SAC from SA EARL E. BROWN,
5/16/68.

The following investigation was conducted on May 17,
1968:

ARTHUR BRUCE, Chief of Police, Sikeston, Missouri, advised that P.J.'s Auto and Home Supply, South Kingshighway, Sikeston, Missouri, telephone 471-4008, was a reputable business establishment owned by P. J. SCHLOSSER, who resides at 927 North Ranney Street, Sikeston, Missouri.

Chief of Police, Hayti, Missouri, FRITZ MC KAY, advised that Gwin's Cafe, 400 East Madison, Hayti, FL 9-1715, is a reputable business establishment owned by ROY ARNWORTH, a resident of Hayti, Missouri.

W. W. CHISM, 400 East Madison, FL 9-1226, and MILTON KELLY, 110 East Main, FL 9-3330, are both considered to be very substantial citizens of the Hayti community. MILTON KELLY is the owner of Kelly Electrical Construction Company, Kennett, Missouri, but he resides in Hayti, Missouri. W. W. CHISM is the local representative for Triple A Auto Club in Hayti, Missouri.

WOODROW WILSON CHISM, 400 East Madison, Hayti, Missouri, advised that he has never known JAMES EARL RAY or J. D. DAILEY. Upon observing the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY on wanted flier 442A, dated April 19, 1968, CHISM stated that he has never had any dealings with a man of that description.

MILTON KELLY, 110 East Main, related that he has never known JAMES EARL RAY or anyone who resembles his photograph. The name [REDACTED] is familiar, but there are many [REDACTED] who reside in the Hayti area.

Chief of Police H. EDWARDS, Caruthersville, Missouri, advised that the following business establishments located in Caruthersville, Missouri, were reputable to the best of his knowledge:

MMW:klr

(1) [Signature]

44-775-828
[Stamp: SEARCHED, SERIALIZED, INDEXED, FILED]
[Signature]

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Dennis Cain Motor Company, Inc.,
111 East Fourth Street
ED 3-0298;

Home Oil and Gas Company Office
424 Ward
ED 3-1111;

B. F. Goodrich Company,
500 Walker
ED 3-2515;

J. P. Berry Welding Company
200 Walker
ED 3-0611;

Broadway Music Company
109 West Fifth Street
ED 3-4113;

ELOISE LA FONTE, 1805 West Parkview, Caruthersville, Missouri, ED 3-1707, advised upon observing photograph of JAMES EARL RAY from wanted flier 442A, dated April 19, 1968, that she has never known the subject nor has she been acquainted with anyone recently who answers his description. She is not acquainted with [REDACTED] and her husband, HAROLD LA FONTE, is an officer of the Niyti, Missouri, Police Department.

JANIE DONAHUE, 1805 Carroll, ED 3-0516, related that she has never known anyone who resembled JAMES EARL RAY nor is she acquainted with a person named [REDACTED]

Chief of Police ED FULLER, Kennett, Missouri, Police Department, advised that McCall's Tire and Appliance Store, TU 8-4561; Smith and Son Transmission Service, TU 8-9212; Legionnaire Grill, 888-9901, are all reputable business establishments located in Kennett, Missouri.

W. F. WILLIAMS, Route 2, Kennett, Missouri, TU 8-9112, advised, upon observing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, that he has never known RAY nor has he known anyone recently who resembled RAY. He is not acquainted with [REDACTED]

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WILLA DEAN PARR, 711 Slicer, Kennett, Missouri, TU 8-9704, advised that the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY is totally unfamiliar to her and that she has never known anyone named [REDACTED].

DALLAS HICKERSON, Postmaster, Wardell, Missouri, advised that the following persons were considered to be reputable citizens of Wardell, Missouri:

JEWEL MATHIS
Route 1
MA 8-3257;

Mrs. ELLA BLURTON
Route 1
MA 8-3405.

LILLIE GASKIN
MA 8-3421.

LIN E. BANKSTON
MA 8-3514;

ED MARTIN
Route 2,
Portageville, Missouri
MA 8-3515.

JEWEL MATHIS, Route 1, MA 8-3257, Wardell, Missouri, stated that he has never known JAMES EARL RAY nor has he known anyone who resembled RAY, but he does know [REDACTED] since [REDACTED] resided in the Wardell area before he departed for St. Louis sometime ago.

Mrs. ELLA BLURTON, Route 1, MA 8-3405, stated, upon observing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY on wanted flier 442A, April 19, 1968, that she has never known RAY nor anyone who resembled him. ELLA BLURTON related that she is acquainted with [REDACTED] because he is the [REDACTED] to her [REDACTED].